

REMARKS

Preliminarily, the Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge Applicants' claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents as received from the International Bureau in the National Stage application

Claims 1-7 and 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 3,767,443 to Clark et al. The grounds for rejection remain the same as set forth in the previous Office Action. In reference to the arguments filed March 20, 2001, the Examiner considered the claims to broadly read on (i.e., encompass) Example 1 of Clark et al in which 10 layers of titanium dioxide and 9 interleaving layers of cellulose diacetate are formed on a dry PEG film. The Examiner considered the resulting product as meeting the claimed multilayer-coated powder comprising a base particle having plural coating layers thereon.

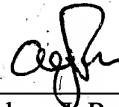
Claims 1-7, and 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clark et al. The grounds for rejection remain the same as set forth in the previous Office Action.

In response, claim 1 has been amended, as suggested by the Examiner, to recite that the multilayer-coated powder comprises a base particle having a specific gravity of 0.1 to 10.5 surrounded by plural coating layers which are different from each other in refractive index. The amendment to claim 1 patentably distinguishes the base particle over the comminuted plural platy layers of Clark et al. Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of claims 1-7 and 9-12 is earnestly solicited.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Appln. No. 09/202,216

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may be helpful to advance prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A multilayer-coated powder comprising a base particle having a specific gravity of 0.1 to 10.5 [and having thereon] surrounded by plural coating layers which are different from each other in refractive index.